

NOTES ON ORECTOLOBUS OR CROSSORHINUS, A GENUS
OF SHARKS.

By THEODORE GILL, LL. D.

IN 1834, Bonaparte, in the seventh fasciculus of his "Fauna Italica" and in the chapter on *Scyllium canicula*, proposed to divide the genus *Scyllium* into three genera, *Orectolobus*, *Scyllium* and *Pristiurus*. The genus *Orectolobus* was defined in the following terms:

Nell' *Orectolobus*, Nob. (le cui specie sono tutte esotiche); il muso è breve, la bocca prossima all' estremità di quello; il margine delle narici è fornito all' esterno d' una valvula assai lunga, rivolta all' indietro; le aperture branchiali sono picciole, le due posteriori dell' uno e dell' altro lato vicine fra loro e quasi confuse in una; la pinna anale è collocata dietro la seconda dorsale. Questa divisione, che trovasi già accennata nelle opere del Cuvier e del Blainville comprende lo *Squalus barbatus*, Gmel. (*punctatus*, Schneid.), lo *Squalus fasciatus*, Bloch (*tigrinus* e *longicaudus*, Gmel.) e lo *Squalus lobatus*, Schneid.

The species thus included are by no means congeneric, but belong to two widely distinct genera. Both genera in 1837 were distinguished by Müller and Henle in the same paper and named *Stegostoma* and *Crossorhinus*.

The *Squalus fasciatus* was regarded as typical of the genus *Stegostoma* and named *S. fasciatum*.

The *Squalus barbatus* and *S. lobatus* are generally regarded as conspecific, and were united by Müller and Henle under the name *Crossorhinus barbatus*.

The *Squalus* "*punctatus*, Schneid.," identified by Bonaparte with *S. barbatus*, is now considered to be the same as *Ginglymostoma cirratum*.

It is obvious that one or the other of the later names must give place to the earlier *Orectolobus*. The applicability was complicated, however, by Bonaparte himself, who later used *Orectolobus* instead of *Chiloscyllium*. For this usage there appears to be no justification. Bonaparte's action, nevertheless, did not vitiate his previous work, and the name *Orectolobus* had best be revived for the one later called *Crossorhinus*, whose synonymy will then be as follows:

Genus ORECTOLOBUS.

< *Orectolobus*, BONAPARTE, Fauna Ital., Pesci, 7. fasc., 1834.

= *Crossorhinus*, MÜLLER and HENLE, Archiv Naturgesch., 3. Jahrg., 1, p. 396,
1837.

Squalus, sp., BLOCH, SCHNEIDER, et vet.

The subfamily name should then be *Orectolobinae* and the family name *Orectolobidae*.